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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide having
 a nucleotide sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a nucleotide sequence encoding the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having the amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) a nucleotide sequence encoding the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the cosmid clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. ; and
 - (c) a nucleotide sequence complementary to any of the nucleotide sequences in (a) or (b).
 - 2. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide has the complete nucleotide sequence in SEQ ID NO:1.
 - 3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide has the nucleotide sequence in SEQ ID NO:1 encoding the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having the amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO:2.
 - 4. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide has the nucleotide sequence encoding the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the cosmid clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. _____.
 - 5. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent hybridization conditions to a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence identical to a nucleotide sequence in (a), (b) or (c) of claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide which hybridizes does not hybridize under stringent hybridization conditions to a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence consisting of only A residues or of only T residues.

- 6. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.
- 7. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.
 - 8. A method for making a recombinant vector comprising inserting an isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 into a vector.

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- 9. A recombinant vector produced by the method of claim 8.
- 10. A method of making a recombinant host cell comprising introducing the recombinant vector of claim 9 into a host cell.

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- 11. A recombinant host cell produced by the method of claim 10.
- 12. A recombinant method for producing a pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide, comprising culturing the recombinant host cell of claim 11 under conditions such that said polypeptide is expressed and recovering said polypeptide.
 - 13. The method of claim 12, wherein said pyruvate carboxylase is expressed 2 to 20 fold higher than its expression in *Corynebacterium glutamicum*.

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- 14. An isolated pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) the amino acid sequence of the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) the amino acid sequence of the pyruvate carboxylase polypeptide

having the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the cosmid clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. _____; and

- 15. A method of making amino acids comprising expressing the nucleotide5 sequence of claim 1 and recovering said amino acids.
 - 16. The method of claim 15, wherein said amino acid is lysine.
- 17. The method of claim 15, wherein pyruvate carboxylase is expressed 2 to 2010 fold higher than in Corynebacterium glutamicum.